



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
7506 E. Indian School Road
Scottsdale, AZ.
Wednesday, January 16, 2002
5:00 PM

Members Present: Bodo Diehn, Chair
Lynn Ashby
Daniel Basinger
Mike Brady
Anne Marie Jack
Randy Nussbaum

Members Absent: Don Manthe

Staff Present: Dennis Enriquez
Larry Person
Connie Padian
Ed Gawf

Guests Present: Davida Shiffman-Smith

Chair Diehn, noting the presence of a quorum, called the regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board to order at 5:12 PM

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call indicated those members present as indicated above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the 10/29/01 Special Meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously.

The minutes for the 12/19/01 Meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously.

STAFF INTRODUCTION – CDS DIRECTOR

Chair Diehn introduced and welcomed Connie Padian, the new Community Design Studio Director to the Board Members. Ms. Padian thanked Chair Diehn. She noted that the meeting room had been relocated in order to provide a more accessible venue for public participation. She provided the Board Members with a brief bio and background information. She advised the Board that she was planning a lecture series in the spring to assist homeowners with residential renovations. She also reviewed some of the potential projects discussed by staff for possible future collaboration with the EQAB.

Ms. Padian stressed the importance of the Board's retreat and her desire to work with the Board and get input at the retreat. Chair Diehn requested a facilitated retreat, and Ms. Padian agreed to look into that possibility. A brief discussion ensued relating to various design issues that could be explored by the City.

Chair Diehn introduced Ed Gawf, Deputy City Manager to the Board Members. Mr. Gawf indicated his pleasure at joining the meeting. He emphasized his commitment to environmental issues and explained to the Board the environmentally related projects he participated in while employed in Colorado and California. He pointed out the importance of maintaining a focus for a Board such as the EQAB. He noted that almost everything in one way or another relates to the environment, so in order to accomplish anything at all, focus on a single issue at a time is critical for success. He also highlighted the importance of identifying a problem before trying to solve it.

Each Board Member introduced him/herself and provided a brief explanation of their interest in environmental issues. Mr. Gawf thanked the Board for their time and expressed a desire to attend the Board retreat and discuss the mission of the Board in depth.

ELECTIONS

Board Member Ashby nominated Board Member Basinger for the Office of Chair. Board Member Brady seconded the motion. Board Member Basinger indicated

he would be happy to accept the nomination. Board Member Jack moved to approve the nomination by acclamation. Board Member Brady seconded the motion.

Board Member Nussbaum nominated Vice Chair Manthe to again serve in that capacity. Board Member Jack seconded the motion. Board Member Diehn moved to accept the nomination by acclamation. Second by Board Member Jack. Board Member Manthe accepted the nomination telephonically.

OLD BUSINESS

Report on Action Items. Ms. Padian asked to review this item. She suggested some procedural changes in the format of the agenda. She pointed out that staff was spending an inordinate amount of time on the action items each month. She recommended inviting the staff person who was expert in the field referred to by the action item. She also suggested a consensus of the Board as to what would be considered an action item in order to allow staff to fully understand what is being requested and the length of time it might require to complete

Ms. Padian noted that staff will be working on ESL design guidelines and user manuals, and will be asking for feedback from the EQAB. There was a discussion as to checklists, and Board Member Ashby clarified that the Board was simply looking for a way to ensure that staff in the field had the necessary tools and education to promote the new ESL requirements.

Chair Basinger reviewed the action item relating to electrical drops and it was decided to revisit that discussion at the next meeting. Ms. Padian recommended further discussion of a budget for the EQAB at the retreat. She also cautioned that too many presentations at Board meetings might detract from focus needed by the Board to accomplish its goals.

Board Member Diehn recalled that the issue of carb diesel was still an unfinished action item. Mr. Person advised the Board that there is a bill going through the current legislative session that would expand the definition of clean burning fuel in Arizona and add carb diesel. He went on to explain that the Intergovernmental Office would be sending notifications to staff on the current legislative session and bills. Mr. Person suggested channeling those updates to the Board Members, and asking for feedback as to the impact of the legislation. He would then take that feedback into consideration when providing the legislative staff with comments on various bills and impacts to city operations. He requested that the feedback be directed to him by e-mail, and added that a 24-hour time limitation for response was critical. He also concurred with Board Member Diehn that a presentation by Intergovernmental Relations staff outlining the City's legislative agenda and priorities for the current session would be very helpful.

NEW BUSINESS

Schedule the EQAB Retreat. Discussion ensued as to a suitable time and date for the retreat. It was decided that Ms. Padian would contact staff who wished to attend and arrive at a time and date convenient for all. It was suggested that a short business meeting prior to the retreat might be necessary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Noise Ordinance. Board Member Nussbaum advised the Board Members that noise issues were not included in the goals promulgated by City Council for this year; and secondly, the question of enforcement was of great concern. For those reasons, he recommended tabling the noise ordinance issue until the climate was more receptive. Ms. Padian suggested that a discussion of the matter with Citizen and Neighborhood Resources might result in other alternatives to address the issue through Planning Systems.

Bus Signs. Board Members Ashby and Jack advised the Board that they would submit the finalized bus signs for Board approval at the next meeting.

HHW Collection Report. Mr. Enriquez reviewed the handout provided to the Board Members. He pointed out the comparison of Scottsdale's program to other valley cities and statistical information on the event. Board Members discussed the event. Chair Basinger stated that problems with the traffic pattern and staffing by the Police Department and Rural Metro were being addressed. Various changes and improvements were discussed. In response to a question by Board Member Jack, Mr. Person advised the Board that negotiations with the City of Tempe regarding use of their facility by Scottsdale residents are ongoing. He indicated that Tempe is becoming more receptive to the idea as the discussion evolves.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

Ms. Shiffman-Smith commented on the timing of the HHW event with regard to storage of volatile materials. She also presented several questions to Mr. Person relating to environmental issues.

Mr. Enriquez reminded the Board Members that Sandy Spain had requested their comments and feedback regarding the new revision to Scottsdale's Energy Policy. He also commented on the dedication of the new solar installation at the Water Campus as an outreach opportunity for the EQAB.

Mr. Person proudly announced to the Board that the EPA's Christie Whitman had personally presented the City with an Environmental Leadership award. He noted that Scottsdale is the only municipality in the United States to have received this award and membership in the National Environmental Performance Track.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Swanberg
Court Reporter